

Message Text

SECRET

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 195319 TOSEC 090032

NODIS

KFOL AMMAN 5551 SENT ACTION SECSTATE AUG 18; REPEATED TO YOU
QUOTE

S E C R E T AMMAN 5551

NODIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER,HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SECVISIT: MESSAGE FOR KING

REF: STATE 195286

1. WAS ABLE TO CONTACT RIFAI SHORTLY AFTER ARRIVAL
REFTEL LATE EVENING. KING TIED UP BUT WILL BE
IN TOUCH WITH HIM TODAY.

2. RIFAI SAID THAT YOU ARE MOST WELCOME ANY TIME
AND THAT HE IS VERY PLEASED WITH THE NEWS.

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3. WENT OVER PENDING TRAVEL COMMITMENTS AND OTHER VISITOR SCHEDULES WITH RIFAI FOR PERIOD AUGUST 23 THROUGH 31. BEST TIME PERIOD IS AUGUST 25-27 FOR GOJ WITH POSSIBILITY OF AUGUST 29-30 ALSO. FOLLOWING ARE PRESENT PLANS: KING RETURNS FROM OFFICIAL VISIT TO SYRIA AUGUST 22, DEPARTURE MOVED UP TO TODAY AUGUST 18 FROM YESTERDAY. MORNING AUGUST 23, LT.COL. HAMDI, PRESIDENT NORTH YEMEN, ARRIVES AND REMAINS UNTIL AFTERNOON 24TH. ONLY OTHER VISITOR IS TURKISH-CYPRIOT LEADER DENKTASH WHO WILL BE HERE ON 28 AUGUST AND RIFAI SAID IF YOUR SCHEDULE MADE VISIT ON THAT DATE NECESSARY, IT COULD BE WORKED OUT.

4. RIFAI ASKED IF MRS. KISSINGER IS COMING. ALSO, EARLIER WHEN NEWS FIRST BECAME INCREASINGLY CURRENT IN PRESS, HE SAID YOU WOULD BE WELCOME IN EITHER AMMAN OR AQABA. I HAVE NOT RAISED QUESTION WITH HIM IN CONNECTION WITH REFTEL ALTHOUGH WILL BE SEEING HIM AT 10:00 AM LOCAL AUGUST 18 ON ANOTHER SUBJECT AND IT MAY COME UP THEN. AQABA HAS ADVANTAGES IN TERMS OF INFORMALITY AND GENERAL TRANQUILITY. ALSO CROWN PRINCE'S GUEST HOUSE IN AMMAN MAY WELL BE USED BY CROWN PRINCE HASSAN BECAUSE HIS OWN RESIDENCE WILL BE UNDERGOING REPAIRS. CONVENIENT ALTERNATIVES HOWEVER ARE AVAILABLE IN AMMAN. AS FOR AQABA, IT CAN BE WARM IN AUGUST WITH DAYTIME (IN THE SHADE) TEMPERATURES IN UPPER 30'S LOW 40'S CENTIGRADE-- OVER 100 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT. REMOTENESS MAKES COMMUNICATIONS SOMEWHAT UNRELIABLE UNLESS NEW MICROWAVE LINK BEING CONSTRUCTED WILL BE READY IN TIME FOR VISIT. PRESS ACCOMMODATIONS SHORT AND FILING DIFFICULT. GRATEFUL FOR ANY THOUGHTS OR REACTIONS YOU MAY HAVE ON THIS QUESTION FOR MY GUIDANCE. PICKERING UNQUOTE SISCO

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